



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PROCLAMATION

“INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING”

June 26, 2024

- WHEREAS**, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has designated June 26, 2024 the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, “World Drug Day”; and
- WHEREAS**, the theme of “The Evidence is Clear: Invest in Prevention” has been adopted; and
- WHEREAS**, we seek to increase understanding of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of evidence-based prevention strategies, emphasizing their impact on mitigating the harms of drug use; and
- WHEREAS**, we encourage greater investment in prevention efforts by governments, policymakers, and law enforcement professionals, highlighting the long-term benefits of early intervention and prevention; and
- WHEREAS**, we empower communities by equipping them with the tools and resources to implement evidence-based prevention initiatives, fostering resilience against drug use and promoting community-led solutions; and
- WHEREAS**, we promote dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders to enhance evidence-based prevention practices and policies, fostering a supportive environment for knowledge sharing and innovation; and
- WHEREAS**, we advocate for evidence-based policymaking at the national and international levels, ensuring that drug policies are grounded in scientific research and informed by best practices; and
- WHEREAS**, we engage communities and raise awareness about the importance of community engagement and participation in designing and implementing effective drug prevention programs, empowering communities to take ownership of prevention efforts; and
- WHEREAS**, we empower youth by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and resources to become agents of change in their communities, advocating for drug prevention initiatives and amplifying their voices in the conversation; and

WHEREAS, we promote international cooperation and collaboration among governments, organizations, and communities to develop and implement evidence-based strategies for combating drug trafficking and organized crime, recognizing the global nature of the drug problem and the need for coordinated action; and

WHEREAS, the American Samoa Comprehensive Substance Abuse Council (CSAC) and the Governor's Drug Control Office will mark this special day with community outreach to increase awareness of drug abuse and illicit trafficking and policies, programs, and services available for treatment and prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim June 26, 2024, as the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, "World Drug Day" here in American Samoa. I encourage the people of our Territory to take notice of these events and to participate in their observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 21st day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four.



LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor